

The Sun

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The American Understanding.

Senator CULLOM adds his assurance to those of Senator LODGE concerning the import of the new Hay-Pauncefote Treaty. His view, like Mr. LODGE's, is that our national and necessary power to control the canal fully at times when we are at war with any nation is understood by the terms of the proposed convention.

It is upon this understanding, based upon the avowed interpretation of the treaty's text by these two leading members of the Committee on Foreign Relations, one of whom is practically the State Department's representative and manager in putting the treaty through the Senate, that the convention will be ratified.

The Senators who vote for it will vote for it because it clears the way for a canal "wholly under the control of the United States like in peace and war," to borrow Mr. ROOSEVELT's impressive definition of the condition that seems vital to him, no less from the standpoint of our sea power than from the standpoint of the Monroe Doctrine.

It is an improper or an unprecedented thing to declare to Great Britain and the world, in advance of ratification, the American interpretation of the terms of the agreement into which we are about to enter?

No, for in 1850, after the ratification of our Senate of the Clayton-Bulwer Treaty, the British Government filed at Washington an extraneous memorandum stating its understanding of the terms of that agreement. And upon that statement of understanding, although it was never accepted by us, the British Government ever afterwards acted.

Not Cause and Effect.

We observe in the same number of our Far Eastern contemporary, the *Manila Free Press*, the report of the arrival in the Philippines of Mr. FISKE WARREN of Boston, Massachusetts, and the narrative of the murderous attack by Samar insurgents upon a detachment of the Ninth regiment on the Gandara River, costing our army ten good American lives.

Mr. FISKE WARREN had a singular experience for a travelling citizen of the United States. He was compelled at Manila to take an oath of allegiance to his own Government. He was made to swear that he would neither do nor say anything, while in the Philippines, tending to incite resistance to the authority and flag of the United States.

This unusual ceremony was performed for two reasons. In the first place Mr. FISKE WARREN was believed to be a disciple of the Boston school in sympathy with the guerrillas who are shooting down American soldiers whenever and wherever they get a chance. In the second place, he had come out to the Philippines in company with SIXTO LOPEZ as far as Hongkong, and at Manila he became the guest of that agitator's brother MARIANO. Mr. WARREN says that he visits the islands for personal investigation of existing conditions, from both the American and the Filipino point of view.

Mr. FISKE WARREN's arrival and the Gandara massacre constituted a coincidence, not a case of direct cause and effect. The ten American soldiers had already been assassinated by Mr. WARREN's little brown brothers at least eighteen hours before he landed and took the oath of allegiance.

Marksmanship in the National Guard.

The report of Lieut.-Col. THURSTON, Inspector of small arms practice on the staff of the Major-General Commanding the National Guard, shows that during the rifle practice season just ended 9,335 officers and men passed the test, and proved that they had some ability with small arms. Of these 9,335, 5,147 qualified as marksmen, making 50 out of a possible 50 points at the short range, the officers with rifles; 859 qualified as sharpshooters, using rifles at 500 and 600 yards, and 322 qualified as experts, using rifles at 700 and 800 yards.

These figures are apparently encouraging; but a comparison between them and those of last year will show a decided decrease in every grade of riflemen, a result which should not be pleasing to the Major-General Commanding and the Brigadier-Generals. The figures for the two seasons may be tabulated for comparison:

Reports	Marksmen	Sharpshooters	Experts
1900	5,147	859	322
1901	4,800	800	300

This loss is very general throughout the State, but is noticeable especially in the brigade stationed in this city. During the summer an order from the Governor directed the two brigades of the State at all times to carry artillery and signal corps to the American coast, and the Headquarters of the Guard, and combined the First and Fifth Brigades, both in Manhattan, into a new First Brigade. Comparison of the work this year of any brigade as a whole with that performed last year is therefore not possible, but the various units may be compared as to the quality of their work in the two seasons.

In the present First Brigade, every organization shows a loss, varying from 11 in the Twelfth Regiment to 75 in the Ninth; the total loss since last

year is 288. In the Second, or Brooklyn Brigade there is a loss of 3, increases in the total qualifications of two regiments preventing any greater drop from last season's figures.

The Third Brigade, with headquarters at Albany, consists of the Tenth Battalion, and two regiments and one battalion made up of separate companies. In the Fourth, Buffalo, Brigade are three battalions of separate companies. All of the organizations composed of these companies have increased the number of their qualified riflemen. The Third Brigade has 1,794 such men this year as against 1,629 in 1900; but large losses by the city regiments of the Fourth Brigade outweigh gains by the country battalions, and the total of the brigade is 88 less than it was last year.

The batteries, Troop C, and the Signal Corps, now attached to Headquarters, show improvement since last year; but the larger units, Squadron A, and the Thirtieth Artillery, show losses. There is a total gain of 5 over last year's figures, however. We do not give the figures for the State and Brigade Headquarters; but the result is a total loss in the National Guard of 221 qualified marksmen, sharpshooters and experts.

This unpleasant result is not to be ascribed to slackness on the part of the general inspectors of small arms practice. More interest in rifle practice on the part of the brigade commanders might have prevented it. The matter is too important to be allowed to drop. A soldier who cannot shoot is of little military value; and the duty of drilling riflemen falls, not on the general inspectors, but on the brigade commanders and their subordinate commanding officers.

The Pennsylvania's Entry.

The momentous character of the plans of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, formally announced yesterday, for the construction of a tunnel under the North and East rivers and through the rock foundation of Manhattan Island, so as to carry two railroad tracks from New Jersey to Long Island through our own city, needs no emphasis. The Pennsylvania Railroad will be brought into this city and connected with the Long Island Railroad in Queens county. The Long Island Railroad will be brought into Manhattan, and the Pennsylvania company will make a close connection with the New York, New Haven and Hartford Railroad.

The project is not only one of the largest in a business sense ever undertaken by an American corporation; it is the greatest step taken in recent years toward the convenience and comfort of the citizens of this city and, in fact, of the entire Eastern part of the country. The engineering work required will, of course, be costly; but it is practicable, and the credit of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company is adequate for the undertaking. It may be stated that the idea of building these tunnels is not a hastily sprung affair. It has been close to the heart of Mr. CASSATT, the President of the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, for fifteen years and has been made the subject of a most careful and laborious investigation during that time.

Two remarks concerning this great plan may properly be offered at this time. First, it is a pity that the project as at present constituted bears no relation to the terminal already located in the city known as the Grand Central Station. What our city needs and must have in time is a union railway station. The terminals proposed by the Pennsylvania Railroad under its present plan are large, but they ought to be made larger and to include the terminals of the Vanderbilt and New Haven systems. They could be made big enough and high enough so that a great deal of space above the ground could be utilized for office buildings and general rental purposes. We earnestly commend this matter to the attention of Mr. CASSATT and to the managers of the New York Central system.

It should be said right at the outset, moreover, that the course adopted by our municipal authorities in dealing with this scheme ought to be in every way liberal and broad. Here is a corporation of high solvency able and willing to spend hundreds of millions of dollars in a vast work which will benefit our citizens in the highest degree. Our citizens and our municipality, on their part, ought to meet the Pennsylvania with the same large-mindedness which the railroad exhibits.

Copper and Water.

Several months ago we spoke of the great change which had come over the copper-producing industry. For two years preceding one of the most notable features of business activity in every manufacturing country was the demand for the metal. The source of the demand in the new found use of copper for electrical lighting and motive power and in the great development of all sorts of enterprises in which electricity was concerned is too tedious to detail. But early in the summer, however, it began to be evident that the demand was slackening and it soon became clear that in Germany, where copper had been used in great quantities, the condition of the electrical industry was such that the demand for the metal was falling.

The effect of all this upon the American copper-mining business was inevitable, and the situation has increased in severity as the weeks have rolled by. Exports of American copper have fallen off to such an extent that the consumption of copper in this country must have increased about 10 per cent. in the past year if the surplus amount of copper has been used in our own land; and, of course, local consumption

has not increased in any such degree. This condition of affairs, however, did not produce an immediate fall in the price of our copper-mining securities. The Amalgamated Copper Company, which holds a majority interest in some of the largest copper mines, adopted the policy of "holding the price" by methods which are now well understood; and a very large number of shareholders of the power and desire of the rich men controlling the company was great enough to accomplish this supposed purpose and to maintain likewise in the stock market the price of the Amalgamated company's shares. It is the same old story. It is so hard to believe that big profits and large dividends may sometimes disappear. The fiction is so alluring that the "insiders" in control of great speculative concerns will stick to them to the last, long after the more wary "lambas" have departed, and that they can and will "hold the price" no matter what befalls.

The great fall in the price of copper stock has ruined thousands of people all over this country, and dealt a great blow to confidence in the general security of the stock market. There is even now the hope cherished by the holders of these copper shares, that the fall in quotations has only been part of a tremendous "deal" engineered by the Amalgamated company's managers for the purpose of obtaining control of the Rio Tinto mines in Spain, the Calumet and Hecla's property in this country and other great copper companies. There are many reasons, appreciable by those familiar with the copper trade and with the character and history of the Rio Tinto and Calumet and Hecla companies, which make the idea of any such control by the Amalgamated company as here stated impossible and absurd. But even assuming that such an event were possible, the attempt by any men or body of men to permanently maintain at a high level the price of copper, or any other article in common use against the natural forces of decreased consumption in the world over, could only result in a failure worse than the daring which invited it. In the background of all this Amalgamated Copper business hovers the shade of M. SECRETA.

The lesson of the recent copper trouble in our stock market is very plain. If it imprints itself upon the hearts of the public, the dearth with which it has been procured will be cheap after all. It is simply the danger of investing in over-capitalized stock companies. Lessened as have been the profits of the copper-mining industry, no extraordinary fall in the shares of the Amalgamated company would have occurred if these shares had represented real value instead of simple water.

Chicago's Short Line.

Chicago, the capital of sensations and queen regnant of the new, is enjoying herself in her usual unusual way. She has a new drink, said to be a thing of beauty and of power. She owes it to Texas, the mother of mighty men, a land of giants, including trusts. The International Live Stock Association met in Chicago last week. The Hon. HENRY ALEXANDER, Texas rancher and railroad, and a party of other stockmen drifted accidentally and absent-mindedly to a hotel bar. Out of courtesy to the house it occurred to the gentlemen to propose a drink. "But I don't want anything," cried the Hon. CHARLES MARTIN, Secretary of the association.

Hollow groans and sharp expostulations began to arise. Energetic hands were laid upon this corner of tradition. But he rescued himself. He rose to the situation. He thrilled with inspiration. He sank his private discrimination in the desire to bless Chicago and the world. In the news columns of the *Chronicle* we catch him in the very act of composition and creation:

"Well, if I've got to drink, I'll drink something new. Gimme a stuffed olive. Put it in a high ball glass. Now, then, a dash of lemon and a tiny drop of straw. Crush the olive and strain it. Now pour in the gin and tincture and fill 'er up with imported ginger ale."

They drank and were happy. They named Mr. MARTIN's concoction the Alexander short line. For a week it has been the most popular drink in the town. Practical and earnest it is also regarded as artistic. It is left to be almost a part of municipal art, equal in its way to a vision of El Tornado or a monologue of the Chevalier Fritolani. Yet there is nothing of the distance about it. According to the *Chronicle* it merits its name. And it is a rapid as well as a short line.

It is as far reaching in its effect and when the society which has drunk the drink to the very bottom has been found to be in a state of complete collapse, it is not too much to say that the Alexander short line is a most successful and a most artistic creation. It is left to be almost a part of municipal art, equal in its way to a vision of El Tornado or a monologue of the Chevalier Fritolani. Yet there is nothing of the distance about it. According to the *Chronicle* it merits its name. And it is a rapid as well as a short line.

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ultimately he will publish a year book so that his thought may have an even finer maturity than the weekly form permits.

TO RELIEVE THE WHITE HOUSE.

Senator Lodge Explains His Plan for a Separate Executive Building.

WASHINGTON, Dec. 12.—Senator Lodge, whose views in regard to a new Executive building for the use of the President are believed to represent the wishes of Mr. Roosevelt, has made an extended statement in support of the bill which he introduced in the Senate last week. The bill, he says, proposes a separate Executive building of two stories, the lower one devoted to rooms for State dinners and receptions, for which the White House rooms have become entirely insufficient, while the upper story should be arranged for the Cabinet rooms and ample executive offices. Mr. Lodge adds:

"The White House would then be simply the President's private residence. For this purpose it is simple and ways will be, because it would be wholly out of keeping with our system to build a great palace in imitation of Europe for our Presidents to live in. The White House is a dignified simple building, excellent in architecture and rich in historic associations. It never must be changed or given up to any other purpose. It will be always amply sufficient for the President and his family. The Executive Building, which should be handsome and in harmony with the White House architecture, must be placed near the White House, but not in direct connection by an underground tunnel, so that the President can go to his office without going out of doors.

My bill suggests that, behind the Treasury where the pedestal for the Sherman statue now stands, but I think a much better place would be the corresponding lot on the other side, behind the State Department. This would bring the building on the edge of the proposed park, would give a good view and wide approaches from all directions."

BRYAN ON THE MESSAGE.

He's Persuaded That the President Heard From the Trust Magnates.

LINCOLN, Neb., Dec. 12.—Mr. Bryan indulges in to-morrow's *Commoner* in caustic comment upon President Roosevelt's first message. On the Trust question he says:

"A perusal of his utterances on the trust question will convince any unprejudiced reader that the President has been misled by the trust magnates since he made his Minneapolis speech. He borrows the phraseology of trust defenders when he asserts that the average man has never been so well off in his life as at this time. The inference is natural that the trust evil is not really serious. It is doubtful whether any one as badly scared as the President seems to be is in a proper frame of mind to calmly consider an effective anti-trust law. He gives the benefit of the doubt to the corporations and nowhere expresses as much solicitude for the rights of the masses of the people as he does in his message on the trust question."

The fatal mistake made by the President is to allow himself to be persuaded by the trust magnates. He is a man of high intelligence, and he is a man of high intelligence. He is a man of high intelligence, and he is a man of high intelligence. He is a man of high intelligence, and he is a man of high intelligence. He is a man of high intelligence, and he is a man of high intelligence.

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EDWIN A. ABBEY'S DECORATIONS.

On exhibition at the American Art Gallery until Dec. 21 are ten decorations, which have been executed by Edwin A. Abbey for the frieze of the Delivery Room in the Boston Public Library. They are the last of the series of fifteen, five of which have long been in place.

The subject embodied in this cycle is "The Quest of the Holy Grail" or rather certain incidents of that legend, which grew by accretion like the Homeric epics, and has not, until recently, been regarded as the fable of primitive Christianity and Knighthood. It is a plant of the Celtic imagination, that had its roots in pagan folklore; gradually brought into Christian form, though still retaining much of the pre-Christian myths; grafted upon with a further crop of incidents that arose out of the patriotic struggle of the Britons against the Saxon invader; then appropriated by the Saxon conqueror and later transplanted to France and Germany, its growth being continually affected by its new environment. Out of the congeries of motives Mr. Abbey has selected those which are especially related to the myth of the San Greal or Sang Real, for the Gallic imagination fastened on the anagram of Holy Cup and Real Blood. It was the cup out of which the Saviour partook at the Last Supper; obtained from Pontius Pilate by the rich man, Joseph of Arimathea, who caught in it the blood that flowed anew from the sacred side, when the Body was being taken down from the cross. Joseph traversed the seas to Glastonbury, in the west of England, carrying with him the divine relic and placing it in the Castle of the Grail, where it must remain invisible to mortal eyes until there should come in search of it a Knight of perfect purity. Then, before it vanished for ever, it would bring peace again on earth, and be the source of all knowledge, life and power.

For his staidness, Mr. Abbey, rejecting the Parsifal of the Teutonic version, has chosen the young British hero, Sir Galahad. In the first five pictures, already in place, he brings the Quest as far as the Knight's visit to the castle of the Fisher King, Amfortas, the King of the Grail Castle, who because he had taken up arms in the cause of an unholy love lies with all his court under the paralysis of deathless agony. The Procession of the Grail passes before the youth's eyes, and he had asked its meaning the cup borne in the procession would have been revealed to him and the spell would have been lifted from Amfortas to whom the comfort of death would have come. But a savior of worldly wisdom in the youth's mind prompts the answer; the question is not put and another chance of putting it must be labored for.

It is here that the new pictures pick up the thread of the story. In the woods outside the castle round the Loathly Lady and her companions, one of them in boy's attire, who urges the others on with a scourge. They, too, are under the spell, doomed against their will to lure Knights to sin and death, until the stainless one shall come. Sir Galahad has come and failed; and, as he kneels in an attitude of contrition, they assail him with jeers and curses. In the next picture his active penance has begun—his hair-banded, he now is the onlooker of the seven Knights of the Deadly Sin, who keep the Virtues imprisoned. His victory opens the prison gates; we see him next receiving the keys from the hand of a monk who blesses him. The following picture records his reception by the Virtues, a long line of beautiful maidens, of whom the nearest to him touch the hem of his robe. In the next picture he is wedded to Blanchefleur and is leaving her, his love and hers still a maiden one, to pursue the Quest. Again he visits Amfortas, this time to remove the spell; and the old King is represented dying in his arms, while over them floats the Angel of the Grail, beckoning the youth to further wandering. In the picture which follows he is setting forth, without his coat of mail, for the land is once more at peace and the people, knowing and standing, bless him as he goes. The Quest takes him across the sea and we find him kneeling in the boat, while the Grail, borne by an angel at the prow, pilots to Sarra. A view of the little city, crowning a rocky eminence, is shown and finally the end is come. Sir Galahad, now King of Sarra, consecrates a sacred place upon a hill and builds a golden tree. When its beautiful fruit is completed, Joseph appears with the Grail amid a company of angels. The crown, sceptre and robe fall from the youth and as he lifts up his face in adoration, it is as the face of a child in its absolute unconsciousness of sin.

This brief summary may suggest the scope of the conception embodied in these paintings and the magnitude of the effort involved. No such scheme of decoration has been so pathetically suggested before the walls of our civilization or so generous in scale for Sargent's decorations at Boston are not yet finished, has been attempted in this country. Boston has the credit of giving the commission, but it must not be overlooked that the amount paid for this work only begins to defray the cost which it has entailed. Mr. Abbey's work is a masterpiece of art, and it is a pity that the public mind is so slow to grasp the importance of the subject. The Hudson River is the lifeblood of the State, and its drainage is a matter of the highest importance. It is a pity that the public mind is so slow to grasp the importance of the subject. The Hudson River is the lifeblood of the State, and its drainage is a matter of the highest importance. It is a pity that the public mind is so slow to grasp the importance of the subject.

They drank and were happy. They named Mr. MARTIN's concoction the Alexander short line. For a week it has been the most popular drink in the town. Practical and earnest it is also regarded as artistic. It is left to be almost a part of municipal art, equal in its way to a vision of El Tornado or a monologue of the Chevalier Fritolani. Yet there is nothing of the distance about it. According to the *Chronicle* it merits its name. And it is a rapid as well as a short line.

Commercial River.

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